

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlstrm.org

October 2007

Volume 34, Issue 10

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joel Corbin

### THE FALL MEET IS UPON US

I hope the Fall Meet is on your calendar and that you will attend it with your friends and family. Saturday and Sunday, October 20 & 21, are the dates. Lois Clifton has planned the food as usual, Marilyn Drewes will fix a spaghetti feed on Friday night at 6:00 PM, and we will have a catered dinner on Saturday night. A special raffle is being planned as well. We have a few shirts left over and our remaining stock on hand will be sold for 25% off the original price. Also, we would like you to bring your engines and other projects. We always enjoy seeing others equipment. The long and short of it is that a good time is expected. Please be a part of it.

### A BUSY MONTH AT THE TRACK

The first Saturday is a public run day, as usual. The second Saturday will see "Buddy Walk" in the park which is also our First Special Needs Meet for kids. They have Down syndrome, and this will be a special time for them, with their families. The third weekend is our Fall Meet, with both days also being our usual Public run days. The fourth weekend, Friday, October 26, Saturday, October 27, and Wednesday, October 31 will be our annual Haunted House Halloween event. This Halloween activity takes care of our insurance cost and is very important to us. All you can do to help on this activity as well as the other weekends would be greatly appreciated. Please advise Clio Geyer of your willingness to help so we can prepare a spot for each volunteer.

### NOMINATIONS

The October Membership Meeting, the night before the Fall Meet official start, October 19, will see our annual

*Continued on page 5*



**GHOST TRAIN RIDES TO THE HAUNTED HOUSE. EVENINGS WHEN DARK.**

**OCT. 26, 27 AND 31**



### SPECIAL RUNS FOR OCTOBER - By Clio Geyer

October is going to be a busy month for us. Not only do we have parties scheduled but we also have the Fall Meet and the Halloween Run Nights. This year the theme is "Pirates" I hear. I will be calling to see if there are any of you who are available to come out and help with the Halloween dates. If you are willing to give one night it would be appreciated. If you would like to help with any of the following events please give me a call 916-645-9154.

- October 4 - Thurs - Birthday 4:30-6:30 pm Diesel
- October 7 - Sun - Birthday 1-3 pm Diesel
- October 10 - Wed - Mom's Group 10-11 am Diesel
- October 13 - Sat "Buddy Walk" for Down Syndrome children - 2 - 4 pm All Engines
- October 14 - Sun - Birthday 2-4 pm Diesel
- October 26 - Fri - Halloween 7:30-10:30 pm All Engines
- October 27 - Sat. Halloween 7:30-10:30 pm All Engines
- October 31 - Wed - Halloween 7:30 -9:30 pm All Engines

See you at the Fall Meet.

## Fall Meet Dinner (Saturday Oct. 20)

Green Salad choice of dressing, Tri Tip and BBQ Pork Ribs, Mashed Potatoes w/brown gravy, French Style Green Beans w/bacon & onions, Fresh Baked Corn Bread, Fresh Fruit Tray, Sheet Cake, & Coffee

\$15.00 each

We will be ordering 75 dinners please make reservations early.

contact Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
[loisjune1@comcast.net](mailto:loisjune1@comcast.net)

**CALENDAR**

Oct. 6. Public run day Noon to 4 PM  
 Oct. 19 Membership meeting 7:30 in Park building 1  
 Oct. 20-21 FALL MEET & Public runs Noon to 4 PM  
 Oct. 26-27 Haunted House special runs Dark to Darker.  
 Oct. 30 Board Meeting. Raley's on San Juan Ave  
 Oct. 31 Haunted House special run Dark to Darker.  
 Nov. 2 News letter deadline.

Nov. 9 Setup day for IRF in Roseville  
 Nov. 10 IRF - Rides at IRF in Roseville  
 Nov. 11 IRF - Rides at IRF in Roseville  
 Nov. 16 Membership meeting 7:30 in Park building 1  
**ELECTIONS**

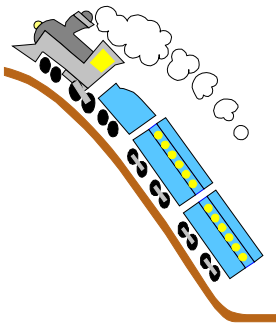
Nov. 27 Board Meeting - TBD  
 Nov. 30 News letter deadline.

Dec. 1 & 2 Santa Train Train ride to have your picture taken with Santa. Noon to 4 PM

Public run day calendar available on-line.

**Don't forget about work days**, Every Tuesday also Saturday after members meeting. Contact a committee member for information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLSRM web site ([www.svls.org](http://www.svls.org)).

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*



Steam Up Procedure may be found on SVLSRM.ORG in the documents section as a PDF file to download or view.

The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (C.) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donors may deduct contributions to The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. to the fullest extent allowed by law as provided in Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

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**MEMBERSHIP**

by Amy lutrel

Hello again... The Fall meet is coming soon and I am looking forward to seeing you all there. Don't forget to come see me and sign in. Also, I will be excepting 2008 dues so if you want to get that out of the way please let me know. For those of you that are unable to make the meet I will be sending out your 2008 renewal sheets in Nov. or Dec. in the news letter, Please look it over make any changes needed and return with you dues to SVLSRM. See everyone real soon.

Amy ~ Membership



Your editor is always wanting pictures for our news letter and our archives. If you have pictures of our activities that you would share please contact the editor. [editor@svlsrm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrm.org)



SVLSRM clothing sales:

The clothing supplies of shirts, hats, and other items for sale are now being maintained by Lois Clifton, so please see here if you would like to order a shirt, hat or anything else we provide.

**Board of Directors**

- President: Joel Corbin (916) 961-5075  
E-mail: [joel@steamtrainjoel.com](mailto:joel@steamtrainjoel.com)
- Vice President: Pete Arney (916) 988-2000  
E-mail: [vp@svlsrm.org](mailto:vp@svlsrm.org)
- Secretary: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [byoder@vfr.net](mailto:byoder@vfr.net)
- Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
E-mail: [loisjune1@comcast.net](mailto:loisjune1@comcast.net)
- Track Superintendent: Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623  
E-mail: [dggomes@caltel.com](mailto:dggomes@caltel.com)
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (916) 344-8989  
E-mail: [rjl1974@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjl1974@sbcglobal.net)
- Trainmaster: Karle Mahler (916) 334-8283  
E-mail: [nancykarle@msn.com](mailto:nancykarle@msn.com)
- Committee Chairpersons -----
- Safety Committee: JJ Carbino (510) 782-2349  
E-mail: [jjcarbino@msn.com](mailto:jjcarbino@msn.com)
- Special Events: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
E-mail: [vern78@onemain.com](mailto:vern78@onemain.com)
- Caboose Ops: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
E-mail: [loisjune1@comcast.net](mailto:loisjune1@comcast.net)
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E-mail: [editor@svlsrm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrm.org)
- Membership: Amy Lutrel (916) 344-8989  
E-mail: [amyl1979@sbcglobal.net](mailto:amyl1979@sbcglobal.net)

**Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM**

**TRACK SUPERINTENDENT**

*by Darrell Gomes*



Darrell and Roxie enjoying train ride with their new engine.

First of all, I would like to say Thanks to the track crew for there help in the rail replacement project. The track crew installed 400 feet of steel rail and replaced a lot of bad ties. Its time now to get ready for the fall meet and help will be need to clean up the right of way. The 1" sale track will be ready and I need some one to bring their equipment to test the track before the meet. Contact me so we can set a date. See you at the meet!



**Glen Strawn  
Oct 1983 at SVLS**

Craig Craddock has reported that Glen Strawn, a member of SVLS for many years, passed away on September 11th. He was 76 years old.

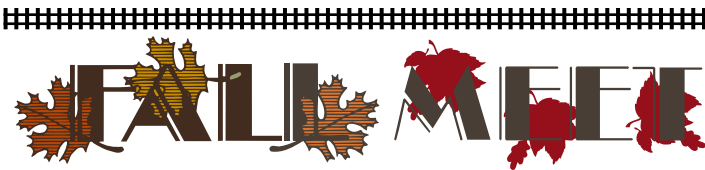
Glen built several engines and cars over the years. One of his favorites was a SD 45 he built in the early 80's. He took great pride in scratch building everything. He made his patterns and poured his own casting. In the 80's Glen enjoyed pulling the public at SVLS with his SD 45. He has pulled thousands of people with it. He helped many others build and repair their engines over the years. Glen also had a lot of fun playing with Stanley steam cars.

He was a retired meteorologist for the National Weather Service. After retirement he started a business manufacturing brass windshields for turn of last century horseless carriages (automobiles). They were a work of art and very authentic reproductions. He sold them world wide.

"He was very instrumental in the design, building and rebuilding of equipment on both the 7 1/2" and 14" layouts at BTRR in Lemoore," Craig said. "He was a co chairman in all of the train meets. He was also involved in the design and building of Bud Richard's track in Madera."

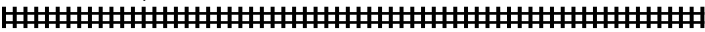


Glen with his newly painted engine 1986



**October 20 and 21**

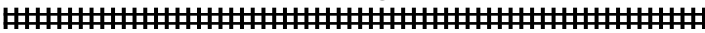
Bring your train and a friend to the Fall meet. There will be many trains to see, food to eat, raffles with great prizes, and always a good time to see old friends!



**International Rail fair  
2007**



It's that time of the year again folks. We can use all the help you can give us. The Railfair at Placer County Fairgrounds in Roseville, will be November 9, 10, & 11. Anyone willing to volunteer please call or contact Paul CLifton. (916) 722-8514 or email: loisjune1@comcast.net.



Glen firing the 14" American after a total rebuild, Dec. 82



**10 Years ago:**

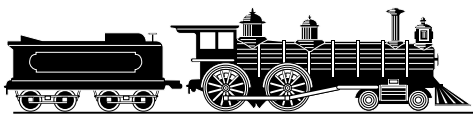
Keith gave update on the Club steam engine repairs/rebuild. It has now been taken down to the “bare bones” and is in the process of reassemble. Red had a report on the state of the grounds. He felt everything was in pretty good shape. Did note that the leaves are now starting to fall. Show & Tell Red found a set of key while mowing in the expansion area. They can be claimed from the Caboose on Run Days.

Dick Esselbach found an old photograph of an old engine while going through the Museum archives. He thought that it was unique, but discovered it was not.

John Bailie showed the latest part he is building for his engine. Matt Mason gave an update on his trip to Train Mountain. He had taken his steel car, but it derailed and twisted in the process. It had been a great success up until then. He also gave an update on the status of the Over-The-Hill Live Steamers at Chiloquin. A new Board has been named. Plans have been made to take up all the track and redo the whole lot. Things have been allowed to pretty well go to ruin over the last few years.


**20 Years ago:** CLUB ENGINE We are very, very close to achieving the total price needed to purchase the Club engine. With already-purchased shares, special runs and State Fair proceeds, we have almost got it. We still need a few more shares to be purchased.. Please if you have not yet purchased your share(s) in the Club Engine, you may do so at the Fall Meet. Milton Thorley has been appointed by your Board of Directors to take care of testing prospective engineers for this engine. HELLO-O-O-O! Is anybody out there? We need Help! Your Club still needs help at the work days.

**30 Years ago:** PLAUDITS & ACCOLADES AND BOUQUETS to all the SVLS members and guests who worked so hard before and during our Fall Meet to make it an enjoyable week-end and a successful on. The pre-meet preparation crews - McKenzie, de Freitas, Gramith, Spicer, Esselbach, Shelley and Quiring were all on hand. There are many people who are doing their bit to make a successful Meet: Ken Spicer and his “Old Faithful” 2-8-2 were there riding the folks. Clyde Johnson 4-6-4; Dick Fin 1” QLM Lackawanna 4-8-4; Ed Spall and the “Jolly Green Giant; Paul Quiring American and Diesel; Ed Yungling Cab forward (With new cab roof); Milton Thorley American,; Al Shelley 0-4-0 with the bright red cab; Glen Strawn 1” 4-6-2; and from LALS the Andreus with their 4-6-2. GGLS sent us Joe and Wayne Yetter with their Mallet, a Mogul engine and riding cars and John Haines, President of GGLS, with that neat brass 0-6-0 engine and cars. Ken Schroeder of Tahoe with a Shay. Quite an impressive showing of engines and equipment - 16 engines



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Combination changed for selected gate locks. Contact a board member for new combination. Full changeover effective 10/15/07.



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH



- 112. All passengers are required to wear shoes, however, sandals may be allowed. Shoe skates are not allowed.
- 226. Any train consist with more than seven (7) cars available for passengers shall have at least one half of the cars equipped with operable brakes, such brakes to be operated by the engineer from the locomotive.

**307. SWITCH TENDERS:**

- A. Qualifications: Any member of SVLSRM or other Live Steam organization or guest of SVLSRM, who demonstrates to the examining committee that he has the knowledge, judgment, and ability to operate track switches or turn-outs competently and safely and who passes the qualification test will be qualified as a switch tender.
- B. Responsibilities: A switch tender shall have a whistle (police type preferred) and a red flag or light in his possession at all times while acting as switch tender. He shall align switches (turnouts) for sidings, station tracks, yard tracks, crossovers, and etc. when requested to do so by the engineer, Stationmaster, or Yardmaster. After any switching movement involving mainline tracks he shall align all turnouts for mainline operation. He shall be certain the points are closed tightly on point switches and that tracks are positively aligned on stub switches. He shall become familiar with the operations and alignment of any unusual track switches or turnouts that he may have to operate, such as – slip switches (double or single), scissors switches, crossovers, spring switches, “rubber frogs”, spring loaded frog switches, turntables, transfer tables, and of etc.

**TRAIN MASTERS REPORT**

by Karle Mahler



This month has been rather busy maintenance wise. It started with an intermittent derailment problem on the lead car (#221) of the yellow train, a bad order of the steamer due to multiple water pump failures, a much-needed brake job on the steamer and finished up with the #1 boiler check valve sticking open and blowing back into the tender.

The derailing problem turned out to be a seized bearing on the front axel of the lead truck. This damaged the journal and required the fabrication of a new axel. After replacing the rest of the bearings on the truck, I declared the job done and the yellow cars are now back in service (you can declare stuff when your the train master and writing your own articles).

The water pump problem is both good news and bad news. The good news was a sticking check valve. Soaking in vinegar removed the mineral deposits on the valve, but it does bring up the question of just what kind of rocks is dissolved in our water. The bad news is the discovery that the second check is starting to cause problems. I recommended to the board and received the okay to order a replacement. This is a problem, which is only going to get worse with time, so I'm not going to fool with it. Along with the check valve, I'm going to replace the piping for the axel and tender pumps. Who knows what evil lurks in those pipes. This task is a work is in progress, meaning I'm waiting for parts.

The brake job was something that I wanted to put off until this winter but, as it turned out, couldn't. The shoes were too badly worn to risk waiting any longer. The shoes were donated by yours truly from a pattern I made and had poured for my engine. The change out was going great until I got to the last shoe. It was then that I found that the brake beam was too short, which caused the shoes to hit the wheel flanges. I also discovered, when the crud was cleaned off, that one of the hangers was broken and barely holding the brake beam. If it had failed, the beam would have dropped onto the track with really exciting results depending on the speed of the engine at the time. To add insult to injury, the opposite hanger had been replaced, but was the wrong length. I ended up fabricating 2 brake hangers, 2 spacers to keep the shoes in position and 2 really clever spacer-extension-nuts, made from 7/16 hex stock. The brake job is finished and the new shoes should fully seat in a month or so.

I'll regal you with my adventures in plumbing and the repair of the reverse shaft arms, they are uneven which is causing an out of balance condition between the left and right cylinders. This last item was discovered while inspecting the valve gear. I'm reminded, sometimes, that the more I work on steam engines the more I like diesels.

I'll see you at the track.

*Presidents Report - Continued from page 1.*

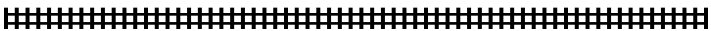
presentation of the recommended slate for the election from the Nominating Committee. This year we will vote for President, Secretary, and Trainmaster. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, also. The meeting will be in building one at the park complex, and will start at 7:30 PM. We will also give and update on all projects, either finished or pending.

**INTERNATIONAL RAILFAIR**

Plan now to help at and attend the International Railfair at the Placer County fairgrounds in Roseville. We will attend, as part of the show, with our snap track and engines. Installation day is Friday, November 9, 2007, with the event taking place on Saturday and Sunday, November 10 & 11. Our workers will receive a pass to this annual model railroad show. Lots of folks are needed to complete this activity, so be ready when Paul Clifton calls you for your commitment.

**DECEMBER TOO**

The first weekend in December will see our annual Santa Run. Lois is now planning this, so call if you can help. Also, we will have our annual pot luck dinner and Christmas Party on Friday, December 21, 2007. Mark your calendar now for this event which has special things planned. We hope all will come, since a great time is usually had by all.



**YARD MASTERS REPORT**

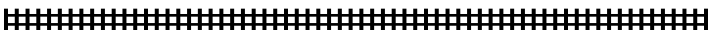
by Richard Lutrel



Hello Everyone. I had the chance to meet with the Sacramento Tree Foundation down at the track and they will be giving us 22 more trees to plant. Five with be going in at the station,

Five will replace the trees at Riverview, and the rest will be in and around the north end of the track by memorial Grove. I need help to plant these trees, so please call me if you can come out and help. I would like to get them planted before the meet. Remember this Track runs on everyone's help. It takes more then the 5 - 10 people that are there every week to keep it looking/running great!! Thanks again to everyone who gives there time to help out !!

Richard~ Yardmaster



**GHOST TRAIN RIDES TO THE HAUNTED HOUSE. EVENINGS WHEN DARK. OCT. 26, 27 & 31**

# for sale

**Railroad supply sw 1500** hydraulic switcher powered by 5 hp honda gas motor. Riding car and wooden stand included. Runs great!



\$4,000 OBO Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623  
dggomes@caltel.com

**5 ton hydraulic car lift**, great for use as train lift/turntable.  
Gil Beaird 530-823-8142

**Old Tinplate Toy Trains.** Collection Lot for a reasonable offer.  
John Haines, email dal455 at msn.com for inventory.

**Rail Systems SW-1500 Diesel** 1.7 scale Southern Pacific switcher. 16 H.P. Briggs & Stratton engine coupled to hydraulic drive. 16 powered wheels on track. Electronic hand control. Custom three chime horn. Should pull 15 riding cars easily.  
\$13,000. Doc Carroll, GGLS. (925) 284-1269

**SALES:** Kitsap Live Steam Steel Cupola Caboose kit \$300  
Allen Models 2-6-0 casting complete except for tender NOW \$1200. Rogers Cooke Loco works flame cut frame for Allen Mogul \$400.

4 1/2' wood cupola Caboose built ;  
\$1000 or best offer.

Jet Vertical Milling Machine Floor model #JVM 830 \$1600.

All offers considered.

Doug Boudakian, (559)325-9006.  
email [dboudrtrain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dboudrtrain@sbcglobal.net)



**SALES:** Figure "8" MARS LIGHTS are available again and have been upgraded with an "LED" in stead of the incandescent bulb. These LED's put out over 50 lumens of light and the LED's have a reported life span of 100,000 hrs... \$300.00 ea. plus shipping.



Switch stands, point throw mechanism and point plate for attaching the points is included with the switch stand. A complete set-up for \$85.00 plus shipping. They may be viewed on my website under photos in the for sale album:

<http://www.timbercreekrr.zoomshare.com/>

Contact me by phone or e-mail for questions and quantity discounts.

Gordon Briggs [timbercreekrr@yahoo.com](mailto:timbercreekrr@yahoo.com) (530)273-9145

**7 1/2" Gauge 4+4 Beam Engine** and tender with two 7 1/2 foot bench type riding cars equipped with Tom Bee trucks and couplers. Pneumatic



brakes on all cars. Current SVLSRM boiler certificate on a 12" diameter vertical steel boiler, propane fired with 306 3/8" diameter copper fire tubes. Twin cylinder double acting engine with Stephenson valve gear and a bore and stroke of 2"x2.75" driving 4.375" diameter wheels through a 20% overdrive. Drive chains are tight at all times. There is a constant speed universal joint in the center of each truck to allow movement while keeping the drive chains tight. Engine weighs about 400 pounds with eight driving wheels arranged in two four wheel trucks. I haven't found a track or turn I couldn't handle at normal track speed. The suspension is very flexible, rock solid on the rails and the engine has a working headlight. This engine is a runner, fast, with exceptional pulling power and is very easy to run, very forgiving. You can check and adjust either firing or water level in about two seconds. Because of having a vertical boiler the engine does not require any additional inputs to fire up, just open the valve on the propane tank and light the burner after you fill the boiler and the water tank with water.

The train is set-up on a new two wheel trailer for towing with a car or small pick-up truck. I estimate the weight of the complete train and trailer at about 1000 pounds. The train and trailer are located in Reno, Nevada.



Asking \$10,500

Contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or [steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net) for additional information/pictures.

**Rail systems 1.7 sw-1500** 16 hp V twin will pull like a pacific! Custom painted & lettered & Mountain car co.



6 ft gondola trucks & couplers custom painted & lettered , NEW cannonball 6ft gondola trucks & couplers I want to sell every thing including eng. storage stand & hauling system set up for pickup truck \$9000.00  
call: Dave 916-315-9574

## WANTED:

Ready to run 7.5 inch gauge / 1.5 scale cars, looking for Flat car, Box car, and Tank car.  
Contact Les Wilmunder at (916) 372-2423

I am looking for a well built 2-6-0 or 4-6-0, 1 1/2 inch scale, 7 1/2 inch gauge. Preferably Winton or Allen type locos. It must run well, and be a turn key loco. An Allen 4-4-0 would also work. Please call John Bothwell at (949) 294-5719 or write to [john.d.bothwell@biola.edu](mailto:john.d.bothwell@biola.edu) if you have or know of an engine.